

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE
SURVIVORS WEEK

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, this week we honor the second National Gun Violence Survivors Week.

I rise today to lift the voices of survivors who live with the impact of gun violence each and every day.

Every year, over 36,000 Americans are killed in acts of gun violence and approximately 73,330 more are shot and injured.

Every day in America, one hundred people die and hundreds more are wounded by gun violence. Even more are threatened or witness gun violence.

America's gun death rate is 11 times greater than that of other developed countries.

This is why House Democrats have passed commonsense legislation like H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Check Act, and H.R. 1112, the Enhanced Background Check Act, to help End Gun Violence to keep our communities safe. Yet Leader MCCONNELL continues to block a vote on this crucial step forward.

This is SHAMEFUL.

The American people deserve ACTION. Not political gamesmanship.

We must stop the bloodshed and the tears. Our children and our communities deserve more than just thoughts and prayers—they deserve action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, due to traveling with President Trump to North Carolina, I was unable to vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 52; Yea on Roll Call No. 53; and Nay on Roll Call No. 54.

HILLSBORO CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce, the City of Hillsboro, and Washington County on the 125th anniversary of the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce. The City of Hillsboro has grown from its agrarian roots to emerge as an economic engine in the State of Oregon.

Since the Hillsboro Chamber was founded in 1895, it has worked tirelessly with local business and community leaders to bring greater opportunities to the people of Hillsboro. When the Southern Pacific Railroad arrived, the ability to export wheat, hops, berries, onions, and dairy helped expand a commercial district in the community that eventu-

ally led to the formation of the Chamber. The Chamber emerged as an advocate for farmers and community members and, over time, the economic prospects of a once sleepy agrarian town expanded. During the Great Depression, the Hillsboro Chamber committed itself to unifying the community in difficult financial times, helping to lift spirits with celebrations such as Happy Days, Hillsboro Bargain Days, and the Harvest Festival. The Chamber also helped the local economy survive by partnering with the City of Hillsboro to administer funds that were used to employ workers to expand runways at the airport, build a post office and hospital, and improve a municipal water system. These early investments in infrastructure have helped make Hillsboro and the surrounding region a hub for the semiconductor and high technology industry. Silicon Forest, as it is known today, will continue to lead the way in development of new technologies and innovative thinking.

Even with the expansion of the economy and growth of modern industry, the Chamber has continued to support small business owners and community members, making sure they have the opportunity to participate in the growing economy. In 1995, The Hillsboro Chamber created the School to Career Program, which has developed an important workforce pipeline to connect high school students from schools throughout Washington County to career opportunities in their communities. By connecting employers to educators and community leaders, the Hillsboro Chamber is also at the forefront of rethinking post-secondary opportunities for its community members.

The 125th anniversary of the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce is a testament to how a collaborative commitment between multiple stakeholders makes a community better for everyone. Although Hillsboro and the surrounding region look very different now, the spirit of collaboration and seeking opportunity in Hillsboro remains the same.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on Thursday, February 6 and Friday, February 7. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: NAY on Roll Call No. 38; NAY on Roll Call No. 39; NAY on Roll Call No. 40; NAY on Roll Call No. 41; YEA on Roll Call No. 42; YEA on Roll Call No. 43; NAY on Roll Call No. 44; YEA on Roll Call No. 45; YEA on Roll Call No. 46; YEA on Roll Call No. 47; NAY on Roll Call No. 48; YEA on Roll Call No. 49; NAY on Roll Call No. 50; NAY on Roll Call No. 51; NAY on Roll Call No. 52; YEA on Roll Call No. 53; and NAY on Roll Call No. 54.

RECOGNIZING LAUREL WALSH

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Laurel Walsh

of Greenville, North Carolina. For more than 35 years, she has been the first face people would see at St. Peter Catholic School. She answered the phone, led tours, maintained enrollment records, helped handle billing, and also served as school nurse. For 20 years she even served as athletic director. Not only that, but for all those jobs, and for all those years she never once brought home a paycheck. Although a few people in leadership were aware, most in the St. Peter family thought Mrs. Walsh was a paid employee. Her secret was safe until about two months ago when the school established an endowment in her honor. In announcing the creation of the Laurel Walsh Fund, school officials revealed that this longtime employee was, in fact, a volunteer.

Teacher Joe Hughes who has worked with Walsh for three decades said: "She's just so kind to everyone. She's just a fine person, just a good example of what a human being should be, what Christ called us to be."

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring this incredible volunteer, but more importantly, a wonderfully faithful servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, and my personal friend, Laurel Walsh.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances directly related to the betterment of the community I serve, I had to miss voting on H.R. 5678 and all accompanying amendments. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 52; Yea on Roll Call No. 53; and Nay on Roll Call No. 54.

IN HONOR OF GENE AND PEGGY
RADIN

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gene Radin and Mrs. Peggy Radin of Jessamine County, Kentucky. Both Mr. and Mrs. Radin are honored veterans of our great nation.

Mr. Radin joined the United States Coast Guard in 1948. He served for 43 years and earned the rank of CWO4 prior to his retirement in 1991. Chief Petty Officer Peggy Radin served in the Coast Guard for 20 years. Between the two of them, they devoted 63 years of service to America.

Following retirement from the Coast Guard, Mr. and Mrs. Radin began serving their fellow veterans by volunteering at the Thomson-Hood Veteran Center in Wilmore, Kentucky. Mr. Radin recently completed 25 years of volunteer service. In addition, for many years Mr. Radin has placed American flags at the graves of Coast Guard servicemen and women at Camp Nelson National Cemetery on the Saturday before Memorial and Veterans Days.